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# STATE OF UTAH

## Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice

MICHELE CHRISTIANSEN  
Executive Director

### UTAH SEXUAL VIOLENCE COUNCIL

#### Treatment Committee

#### Meeting Notes April 27, 2006

**Members present:** Ron Sanchez , Mike Conn, Jan Nicol, Jeremy Shaw, Bobbi Morgan, Cora Peterson, Laurel Duncan, Ron Gordon

#### Availability of Adult Offender Treatment

- Jeremy presented the results of a survey of AP&P regional administrators. The RAs addressed the following two issues: (1) the general availability of sex offender treatment within their region; and (2) the availability of sex offender treatment for indigent offenders within their region. Jeremy provided a written report and a summary.
- Region V (southern Utah) and Region VI (eastern and southern Utah) have few approved providers and no options for indigent offenders. Offenders are often required to travel long distances for treatment which reduces the frequency that they attend treatment.
- Only Region III offers a state-funded no-cost treatment option for indigent offenders.
- The committee will explore the possibility of using video-conferencing to supplement face-to-face treatment where treatment is not readily accessible.
- The sexually oriented business tax could be changed to permit its use by private providers for indigent offenders. If the sexually oriented business tax is expanded and revenues are enhanced, DOC could establish a funding stream for indigent offenders where the money follows the offender.

#### Availability of Juvenile Offender Treatment

- One of the biggest concerns is offenders who are aging out, meaning offenders who must be released because of their age. These offenders are released from JJS custody and have no place to go and have no services at their disposal. This is particularly problematic because the sex offenders who are in the custody of JJS until age 19-21 are often some of the highest risk offenders.
- These offenders might benefit from DOC services and supervision. However, they currently are not able to receive services and supervision from DOC because they have no adult conviction. A dual-supervision model may help.
- The sexually oriented business tax could be expanded to include treatment of juvenile sex offenders.

### **Treatment of Victims**

- The committee discussed establishing a fund for treatment of victims who cannot pay for treatment and are not eligible for CVR funding (because they do not report or are otherwise denied by CVR). The funding could come from sex offenders ordered to pay restitution or a fee in cases where there is no identifiable victim (such as some child pornography cases) or cases where there is an identified victim, but that victim cannot be found.
- The committee will also focus on increasing awareness of services for victims.

### **Offender Treatment Standards**

- Jeremy and Ron Sanchez discussed Corrections' treatment standards for outpatient providers.
- Mike will review those standards and compare them with JJS standards.
- The committee recommends that the Sexual Violence Council support a UDC building block to fully staff sex offender treatment. With full staffing, the committee recommends that sex offenders be required to complete sex offender treatment prior to parole.

### **Parole Process**

- Jan provided an overview of the parole process.

### **Assignments**

- Laurel and Jan will research the use of video-conferencing for sex offender therapy.
- Ron will explore split sentencing models in other states.
- Mike will look for models of a dual-supervision half-way house or group home.
- Ron and Jan will further explore the victim treatment fund.
- Bobbi will develop ideas on enhancing awareness of services for victims.
- Mike will review the Corrections' outpatient provider treatment standards and compare them with JJS standards.

**Next Meeting:** May 18 at 9am at Salt Lake AP&P located at 36 W Fremont (1100 South).